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Talbots Abroad Period 8

Lesson #1 Thank You

1. What is the expression for “Thank you” in your host culture?

The expression for “Thank you” in my host culture is: “Shukran” (شكرا ).

2. Name at least three situations where you should respond with “Thank you” in your host culture:

The more casual “thank you” (Shukran) in Arabic can be used pretty much anywhere and at anytime. One specific situation would be if you’re at a restaurant and you would be thanking someone for waiting on you. Another particular example would be if you were at a shop and someone helped you picked an item out to buy. A last specific example would be if you were just thanking someone in return for their kindness in doing something for you.

3. Are there any other special expressions for special situations? What are they? For example, are there sometimes when you need to be more respectful? Does it depend upon whether you know the person or not?

A special expression for special situations is a greater version of saying “Thank you” which is: “Shukran Jazilan” (شكرا جزيلا ) which means “Thanks a lot.” This is more formal and is used for writing “thank you” notes, or thanking someone when they invite you to their home for a meal, as well as in business context and other formal situations. You can also say “Thank you very much” in Arabic which is “Baaraka Allahu fik” (الله فيكبارك ) which is showing the greatest type of “thank you” there is. This is used for very special occasions when someone goes above and beyond being kind, when someone is extremely grateful, or even for when you’re extremely grateful. In Arabic this literally means “God Bless You.”Any of these three are very respectful and can be used towards anyone, but they just range from being thankful to very thankful.

4. How do you express a degree of thankfulness in your host culture (for example, “Thank you very much!)?

To express extreme gratitude in my host culture, you would place your right hand on your chest while saying thank you. This gesture indicates that it’s really coming from the heart. This isn’t required, but it would be very nice to do so (would show people that you are a genuine and kind person).